



\$1652

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

REBECCA E. CAHOON ET AL.

CASE NO.: BB-1240

APPLN. NO.: 09/786,675

GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FILED: MARCH 7, 2001

EXAMINER: N. T. NASHED

FOR: PLANT FARNESYLTRANSFERASES

#15/a
Dmt
10-23-02

**AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

OCT 21 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

This is an Amendment and Response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed August 9, 2002. A Petition for Extension of Time for one (1) month up to and including October 9, 2002 is filed simultaneously herewith. Please enter the following:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows; a marked-up version showing changes made is attached hereto:

Paragraph beginning at page 6, line 31, and continuing to page 7, line 15:

ai A "substantial portion" of an amino acid or nucleotide sequence comprises an amino acid or a nucleotide sequence that is sufficient to afford putative identification of the protein or gene that the amino acid or nucleotide sequence comprises. Amino acid and nucleotide sequences can be evaluated either manually by one skilled in the art, or by using computer-based sequence comparison and identification tools that employ algorithms such as BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool; Altschul et al. (1993) *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-410). In general, a sequence of ten or more contiguous amino acids or thirty or more contiguous nucleotides is necessary in order to putatively identify a polypeptide or nucleic acid sequence as homologous to a known protein or gene. Moreover, with respect to nucleotide sequences, gene-specific oligonucleotide probes comprising 30 or more contiguous nucleotides may be used in sequence-dependent methods of gene identification (e.g., Southern hybridization) and isolation (e.g., *in situ* hybridization of bacterial colonies or bacteriophage plaques). In addition, short oligonucleotides of 12 or more nucleotides may be used as amplification primers in PCR in order to obtain a particular nucleic